COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

February 20, 1950.

Dear Mr. Root:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, were pleased to inspect the models of statuary by Leo Friedlander, sculptor, for the entrance to the Arlington Memorial Bridge, which were placed on pedestals there to determine whether or not in the opinion of the Commission the proposed bronze equestrians would interfere with the view of the Lincoln Memorial in crossing the bridge from Virginia.

After careful inspection of the silhouettes, the Commission were satisfied that the situation is not of such importance as to require a lowering of the pedestal. In this both Mr. Friedlander and Mr. James E. Fraser, sculptor of the companion figures at the entrance to the Rock Creek Parkway, concurred, as well as Mr. James Kellum Smith, representing the firm of McKim, Mead and White, architects of the Arlington Memorial Bridge. Certain suggestions were made relating to inscriptions on the pedestals, which can be considered further at some future time. For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

EXHIBIT N

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Mr. Irving C. Root,
Superintendent, National
Capital Parks, National Park Service,
Washington, D.C.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Held in New York City, April 4, 1950

The sixth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, during the fiscal year 1950, was held in New York City on Tuesday, April 4, 1950. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Finley,
Mr. Aldrich,
Mr. Reinhard,
Mr. Sterne,
Mr. Lawrie,

also H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., at the studio of Malvina Hoffman, sculptress, 157 East 35th Street.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on February 20, 1950, were approved.

2. PAINTING FOR THE MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY AT EPINAL, FRANCE: Mr. Eugene F. Savage, painter, submitted a mural painting (displayed as a panoramic scale model) for the Museum of the World War II Memorial at Epinal, France, William Adams Delano, Architect, who was also present. The painting is to be 55 feet long and 14 feet high and portrays the landing of the Seventh Army in Southern France and its march northeastward to Germany. Mr. Savage explained the model. It is to be a ceramic mosaic.

The Commission were well pleased with the painting and gave it unanimous and final approval (Exhibit A).

3. SCULPTURED PANELS FOR WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL AT EPINAL, FRANCE: Miss Malvina Hoffman, sculptress, submitted one-half sized models of her

Minutes of Meeting of the Committee on Arts and Letters
held in New York City, April 4, 1931

The eighty meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, during the fiscal year 1931, was held in New York City on Tuesday, April 4, 1931. The following members were present:

Mr. Cleave, Chairman,
Mr. Mellon,
Mr. Mitchell,
Mr. Pinchot,
Mr. Deering,
Mr. Lamont,
Miss H. . Committee, secretary pro tempore.

Unfinished business:

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., by the Chairman of Saving Holmes, Congress, 1st Lass 1920 stamps.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of previous meeting. The minutes of the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on February 21, 1931, were approved.

2. RULING ON THE DESIGN OF THE MEMORIAL BRIDGE CONNECTING ARLINGTON WITH WASHINGTON. Mr. Eugene E. Speer, Engineer, submitted a model (displayed as a mechanical white model) for the bridge to the Memorial to Spinal, Jones, Philips Jones Dallas, Indiana, who was also present. The pending location of the bridge in Southern Plaza and the main approach to Memorial. Mr. Speer explained the model. It is to be a concrete mosaic.

The Commission were well pleased with the painting and unanimously the final approval (Exhibit 1).

3. CONSIDERATION OF PLANS for Road FOR ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI: Miss Helvina Holmes, sculptress, submitted one-half sized models of her

two bas-reliefs to flank the entrance of the World War II Memorial at Epinal, France. In full size they will measure approximately 16' x 18'. They had been inspected several times in the progress of the work by members of the Commission. One of the reliefs portrays soldiers going to battle; the other, a scene indicative of Immortality.

The Commission were highly pleased with the models and complimented Miss Hoffman on the excellence of the work. The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to the models. (Exhibit B).

Also, the Commission inspected and gave final approval to a model of an angel, proposed for the wall back of the chapel altar; a Seal, indicative of the Seal of the United States, to be placed over the entrance to the Museum; a Seal over the entrance to the chapel, portraying religious symbolism; and a model of an Eagle to be placed on the attic over the entrance to the Memorial. (Exhibit B).

4. AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY AT MANILA, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS: Mr. John F. Harbeson, Consulting Architect of the American Battle Monuments Commission, submitted a bird's eye perspective and other drawings by Gardner A. Dailey, Architect, for the proposed World War II American Military Cemetery at Manila. The design had been given study by the architect during several months past. The cemetery is being developed at the Fort McKinley Reservation, south of Manila.

The Cemetery will contain 21,000 graves; and a series of Stelae, 16 feet high, covered with a flat slab roof arranged in circular form somewhat similar in plan and dimensions to the colonnade of the Piazza San Pietro in Rome. For the names of 19,000 Unknown dead the Commission suggested that a model be made of a stele, so as to make certain that the names at the top will be legible.

The Commission also considered a proposed 150' tower as shown in the perspective. Mr. Harbeson said it is proposed to build it of exposed concrete; the Commission advised using stone for the exposed surfaces of the tower. Mr. Harbeson mentioned the fact that there is good marble available in the Philippine Islands.

The Cemetery will have crosses to mark Christian burials, the Star of David to mark Jewish burials, and also markers for Buddhists and Mohammedans.

The Commission were satisfied with the general layout as shown in plan. They urged that further study be given to the architectural elements and, before another submission is made, that a model be prepared. (Exhibit C).

5. SCULPTURE FOR THE AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY AT SURESNES, FRANCE: The Commission visited the studio of Mr. John Gregory, 65 West 56th Street, and inspected a 1/3 scale model of a female figure for the Shrine at Suresnes. Mr. Gregory said he had been giving it much study but felt he had come to what seemed to him a satisfactory solution of the problem.

The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to the model (Exhibit D).

6. SCULPTURE FOR THE AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY OF WORLD WAR II AT ANZIO, ITALY: (a) The Commission visited the studio of Paul Manship, 319 East 72nd Street, to inspect models by him for the World War II American Military Cemetery at Anzio, Italy. Two high reliefs, presented at quarter scale, portrayed, 1, Remembrance placing a wreath on a fallen soldier; and 2, a soldier being elevated to Immortality. The panels will be of stone and carved in high relief.

The Commission inspected the models and gave them unanimous and final approval. (Exhibit E).

(b) Models of a soldier and sailor portraying Comradeship: Mr. Harbeson said as to these models (which are to be in bronze), by Mr. Manship, that the American Battle Monuments Commission felt that the figure to typify the Navy should have some mark of identification on it. The Commission of Fine Arts concurred in this and gave final and unanimous approval to the models (Exhibit E).

7. DESIGN FOR A MOSQUE: Mr. Martin J. VanCamfort, Architect, representing the firm of Irwin S. Porter & Sons, Architects, of Washington, submitted in their behalf a perspective and drawings of a design for a Mosque to be built facing Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest, adjacent to the Rock Creek Parkway, which is within the Shipstead-Luce Act area. Mr. VanCamfort said that six Nations, particularly Egypt, are interested in this Mosque. Elevation of the Mosque facing Massachusetts Avenue will be about 60' high and 150' long; on the left will be a lecture room and library and on the right of the building a large wash room. At the rear will be the Mosque proper, a room 60 feet square. There will be a minaret 150 feet high.

The Commission inspected the design and approved it, with the understanding that the design will be submitted to the Inspector of Buildings of the District of Columbia and will be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts in due time in accordance with the requirements of the Shipstead-Luce Act Regulations.

8. SCULPTURE FOR THE NEW FEDERAL COURT HOUSE: The Commission visited the studio of Mr. Sidney Waugh, sculptor, 101 Park Avenue, and inspected four 4-1/2 foot models (full size) of his proposed sculpture of four great law-givers---Hammurabi, Moses, Solon, and Justinian, to be placed on the wall of a Court Room of the new Federal Court House which is being built at

Third Street and Constitution Avenue, Northwest. The figures will be placed on a wall 14 feet from the floor.

The Commission inspected the models. Mr. Lawrie felt the head of Moses was a little smaller in scale than that of Hammurabi, for example, and Mr. Waugh said he would give this further study.

The Commission, after consideration, gave final and unanimous approval to the four models (Exhibit F).

9. SCULPTURE FOR THE ENTRANCE TO THE COURT HOUSE: Mr. C. Paul Jennewein, sculptor, submitted a model in the form of a triangular stele about 23 feet high to be placed at the entrance to the new Federal Court House.

Mr. Jennewein explained the model, stating that two sides will have portrayed in bas-relief five scenes each to illustrate the Ten Amendments of the Constitution; as, for example, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, etc.. On the third side of the monument it was proposed to show the Bill of Rights; but Mr. Jennewein said the suggestion has also been made to have on that side an indication of the Seal of the United States and the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States, and this the Commission of Fine Arts preferred to the Bill of Rights, as it avoids duplication to a certain extent since the principles set forth in the Bill of Rights are embodied in the Ten Amendments.

The Commission gave final and unanimous approval to the model, with the understanding that the monument will show on the third side an indication of the Seal of the United States with the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States under it. The monument is to be of granite with a honed surface (Exhibit F).

10. SCULPTURE FOR THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING: Mr. Joseph Kiselewski, sculptor, submitted photographs of his panel to flank the left

side of the G Street entrance to the new General Accounting Office Building, which is being built at Fifth and G Streets, N. W.. It portrayed industry, and professions such as education and medicine.

The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to the model, based on the photographs submitted (Exhibit G).

11. SCULPTURE FOR THE H STREET SIDE OF THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING: Mr. Lee Lawrie, sculptor, submitted photographs of his model for panels to flank the entrance to the H Street side of the General Accounting Office Building. One of these typified Exchange and Trade; and the other Industry, Security of the Family, Religion, Education, Science.

The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to the panels, based on the photographs submitted (Exhibit G).

12. BAS RELIEFS FOR COURT HOUSE: Mr. Walker Hancock, sculptor, submitted sketch drawings for a Bas Relief for the new Court House. Of several designs submitted, the Commission favored one showing a young man kneeling at the side of Justice. No final decision was reached. Mr. Walker said the subject is to be considered further with a Committee or Judges of the Court.

13. CLEVELAND PARK BRANCH LIBRARY: The Secretary presented a letter of protest from the Connecticut Avenue Citizens Association (Exhibit H) against the design which was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts at a meeting held January 6, 1950.

The Chairman stated in behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts that the Commission has no authority concerning building programs, that is, the extent of facilities to be provided in buildings such as schools, libraries and the like; that the Commission passes upon designs as submitted.

The problem is one to be taken up with the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia and with the Board of Library Trustees, and the

Connecticut Avenue Citizens Association was advised accordingly (Exhibit H-1).

14. NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS: The Commission decided to hold their next meeting in Washington on Wednesday, May 17, 1950. This will mark to a day the Fortieth Anniversary of the Establishment of the Commission of Fine Arts by Congress on May 17, 1910.

It was suggested by Mr. Finley that on the evening of May 17th a special meeting be held at the Departmental Auditorium, on Constitution Avenue between Twelfth and Fourteenth Streets, to be devoted to a consideration of the Plan of Washington and related problems. Members of Congress and officials of the Government in particular would be invited. The National Capital Sesquicentennial Commission has made $5,000 available for the preparation of a Moving Picture Film on the City of Washington, which is to be shown that evening. The meeting would be similar to one held in 1929 in the interests of the Public Buildings Program which was under way at that time.

Mr. Finley said the meeting should be one of the events of the National Capital Sesquicentennial Commission and that they should be the host since they made the fund for the film available; and have charge of the program in cooperation with the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The matter is receiving the attention of the National Capital Sesquicentennial Commission, and the Commission of Fine Arts is to be advised soon regarding the program.

The Commission adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The Commission were the guests of Chairman Clarke for luncheon at the Century Club.

COPY

April 6, 1950

Dear General North:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting in New York City on April 4, 1950, had submitted to them a mural painting by Eugene F. Savage, painter, for the World War II Memorial at Epinal, France.

The Commission were well pleased with the painting and gave it unanimous and final approval.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Brigadier General Thomas North, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit A

COPY

April 6, 1950

Dear General North:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on April 4, 1950, in New York City, inspected the one-half size models for two large reliefs to flank the entrance of the World War II War Memorial at Epinal, France, by and at the studio of the sculptress, Malvina Hoffman.

The Commission were highly pleased with the models and unanimously gave them final approval.

Also the Commission gave final approval to models by Miss Hoffman of an (a) Angel; (b) a Seal indicative of the Seal of the United States; (c) a Seal portraying religious symbolism; and (d) a model of an eagle which will be placed over the entrance to the Memorial.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Brigadier General Thomas North, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit B

COPY

April 10, 1950

Dear General North:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting in New York City on April 4, 1950, had submitted to them by your consulting Architect, Mr. John F. Harbeson, a birds-eye perspective and other drawings by Gardner A. Dailey, Architect, for the proposed World War II American Military Cemetery at Manila, Philippine Islands. The Commission gave them careful consideration and indicated that the general plan for the Cemetery is satisfactory.

The Commission were informed that 19,000 names of Unknown Dead are to be carved on stone stelae 16 feet high which are proposed to be connected by a flat concrete slab to form a roof. It was also noted that the proposed 150-foot tower is proposed to be of exposed concrete. The Commission are of the opinion that concrete is not a satisfactory material for a memorial of such great importance and they urge the use of an appropriate stone for the exposed surfaces of the tower.

The Commission are satisfied with the general layout as shown in plan. They urge that further study be given to the architectural elements and, before another submission is made, that a model be prepared.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Brig. General Thomas North, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit C

C O P Y

April 10, 1950

Dear General North:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting in New York City on April 4, 1950, inspected a model by John Gregory, sculptor, at his studio. It portrays a female figure (one-third scale) to be carved in marble for the Shrine at Suresnes, France.

The Commission were impressed with the dignity and the beauty of the figure and gave unanimous and final approval to the model.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Brigadier General Thomas North,
Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit D

COPY

April 10, 1950

Dear General North:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting in New York City on April 4, 1950, inspected models by and at the studio of Paul Manship, sculptor, for --

The World War II War Memorial at Anzio, Italy:

(a) Two high reliefs at one-quarter scale, one representing Remembrance placing a wreath on the grave of a soldier; the other, a soldier being elevated to Immortality;

(b) Two male figures in a single composition representing the Army and the Navy, symbolic of Comradeship.

The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to these models.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Brig. Gen. Thomas North
Secretary
The American Battle Monuments Commission
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit E

C O P Y

April 10, 1950

Dear Mr. Thorn:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting in New York City on April 4, 1950, inspected the full-sized models by Sidney Waugh, sculptor, of the four law-givers---Hammurabi, Moses, Solon, and Justinian, to be placed in a court room of the new Federal Court House which is being built at Third Street and Constitution Avenue.

The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to the models.

Also, the Commission inspected a model of a triangular monument by C. Paul Jennewein, sculptor, to be 23 feet high, proposed for erection at the entrance to the Federal Court House, facing Constitution Avenue. Mr. Jennewein explained the model, pointing out that it is proposed to have ten scenes in high relief illustrative of the Ten amendments for two sides of the monument. For the third side, Mr. Jennewein stated that he was considering the Bill of Rights or the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States.

The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to the model, with the understanding that the Preamble to the Constitution be shown on the third side of the monument, with an indication of the Seal of The United States above it.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Allan S. Thorn,
Supervising Architect,
Public Bldgs. Administration,
General Services,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit F

COPY

April 10, 1950

Dear Mr. Thorn:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on April 4, 1950, in New York City, considered photographs of a model by Joseph Kiselewski, sculptor, for a sculptured panel at the left of the entrance to the General Accounting Office Building, facing G Street, Northwest, between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to the model, based on the photographs submitted.

Also, the Commission considered photographs of a model by Lee Lawrie, sculptor, for a sculptured panel at the north entrance to the General Accounting Office Building, facing H Street, N. W.

The Commission gave unanimous and final approval to the model, based on the photographs submitted.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Allen S. Thorn,
Supervising Architect,
Public Bldgs. Administration,
General Services,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit G

Exhibit O

C*O*P*Y

CONNECTICUT AVENUE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
Washington 8, D. C.

March 27, 1950

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary, Fine Arts Commission
Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

Having checked with your office, the officers of the Connecticut Avenue Citizens Association, a group of some fourteen hundred fine tax-paying, home-loving citizens of the Cleveland Park Area, were much disturbed to learn that the Fine Arts Commission have approved the new plans recently drawn by the Municipal Architect of the District of Columbia for the proposed Cleveland Park Branch Library building. On reflection, we are sure that this action was taken without full knowledge of the facts, which are here set out.

Several years ago the Connecticut Avenue Citizens Association and the Cleveland Park Community Committee, acting together, raised thirty thousand dollars to be used towards the purchase of the lot at the corner of Macomb and Newark Streets and Connecticut Avenue, on which the proposed branch library building was to be erected. This money was raised by volunteer workers who made a house to house canvass in the interest of the fund. There were subscriptions as low as one dollar, many of five dollars, and some of larger amounts. The merchants in the Uptown Area gave liberally to it. The sum raised was a community contribution, and every dollar solicited was given with the understanding that the proposed building would not only be a library but a community building, in which would be housed certain existing community activities.

When the Connecticut Avenue Citizens Association turned the thirty thousand dollars over to the District Commissioners it was accepted with the distinct understanding on the part of the Commissioners that in exchange for it the Cleveland Park area was to get a community building as well as a library building.

The original plans, approved by your honorable body, and three times approved by the District Commissioners, and the sum of $550,000 placed in the budget for its construction, provided rooms for community activities, also an auditorium and meeting rooms, in addition to the regular library services.

Three times the Congress removed from the budget the appropriation for this community and library building; and the 1950 budget sent to the Congress has no provision for the building. Since it went to the Congress, the Municipal Architect, acting under instructions, has drawn plans for a small library building, with no provision for any community activities. These plans have been approved by the District Commissioners, by the Board of Library Trustees, and by the Fine Arts Commission.

Our Association has gone on record as declaring that this change in plans is a breach of promise not to say of contract on the part of the District Commissioners. Would your Commission have approved the new plans if they had had these facts before them?

The courtesy of a reply will be much appreciated.

Yours very truly,
Sig. Canson Purcell, President
Conn. Ave. Citizens Association

Exhibit H

C*O*P*Y

April 4, 1950

Dear Sir:

Your letter of March 27th, concerning the design for the Cleveland Park Branch Library Building, has been received.

A design for this building was submitted to this Commission by the Municipal Architect of the District of Columbia at a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on January 6, 1950. The Commission have no authority concerning building programs, that is, the extent of facilities to be provided in buildings such as schools, libraries, and the like. We are only authorized by law to pass upon the architectural treatment of buildings submitted to us based upon programs prepared by other agencies of the Government.

I suggest that you take this matter up with the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia and with the Board of Library Trustees; these agencies are, in these circumstances, the appropriate authorities to approach with your problem.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

Gilmore D. Clarks
Chairman

Mr. Ganson Purcell, President
Connecticut Avenue Citizens Association
3501 Macomb Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit H-1

Exhibit F-1